GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5601
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2001
CONVERSION OFF MURDER CASES INTO NATURAL DEATH CASES BY POLICE
SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI;VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Murder cases passed off as Natural deaths to check Crime graph` appearing in the `Hindustan Times` (Delhi edition) dated March 14, 2001;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether it is a fact that in number of murder cases, police had pressurised the autopsy experts to convert the murder cases into Natural deaths;

(d) if so, whether the Government are considering to book the Police officials responsible for pressurising autopsy experts for converting murder cases as natural deaths; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a): Yes, sir.

(b): Delhi Police had recovered on 21st November, 2000 a dead body from Karkardooma Court premises and another on 3rd March, 2001 from Patparganj area as reported in the news-item in question. In boththe cases, the dead bodies could not be identified at the time of recovery. As there was suspicion that the death might not have occurred under natural circumstances, the local police initiated proceedings under section 174 Cr.P.C. as provided under law and sent the bodies to mortuary for post-mortem. On receipt of the post-mortem report, both the cases were formally registered under section 302 of IPC. The allegation made in the news report that the local police attempted to pass off these as cases of natural death is not, therefore, correct.

(c): No. Sir.

(d) & (e): Do not arise.